

Thank you Dwight As I look out over this group, I realize that this is a very seasoned group of people. Many of you have been in your career field for many years and you are very familiar with the challenges that you face. Much of the population information I will cover, you already know. Idaho has changed so much. Boise's population has grown from 81,000 to 200,000+.

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we have not succeeded in answering all of our problems. Indeed, we often feel we have not completely answered any of them. The answers we have found only serve to raise an entirely new set of questions. In some ways, we feel we are as confused as ever. But, we believe we are confused on a much higher level and about much more important things.

--Final summary report from a public finance work team with private

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Forums are convened to establish a 'think tank' of experienced people. A forum is also a good method to stretch our thoughts and to look over the horizon to our future. Current planners are now being asked to look out a hundred years. Maybe we don't have to consider that far out, but certainly 30-40 years is reasonable.

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We will need to consider

"What vs. How"

"On vs. In"



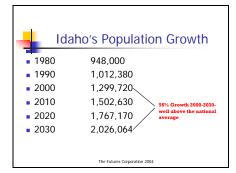
 Many industrialized countries will grow slowly or not at all...up to 135 percent growth in poor nations.

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India's population will be more than China.

Many poor nations are predicted to grow in population up to 135%.

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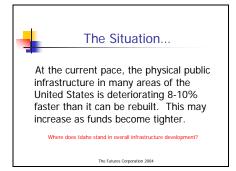


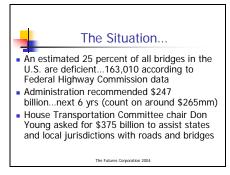
Idaho's population is predicted to have 56% growth by 2030.

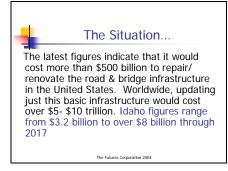
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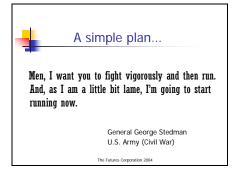


Next 15 years will continue to have twice the national average.















- Expenses are lower better economic value
- Good schools, conservative government
- Available and highly capable workforce
- Business operations can be more isolated
- Sense of community & community values

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Why is Idaho growing? We have a better place to live.

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Population Growth – Why??

- Escape from large metro areas
- Promise of a better, safer life
- Stronger, more stable economic base
- Potential for more opportunity
- Great environment, great people
- Superb recreation
- Climate

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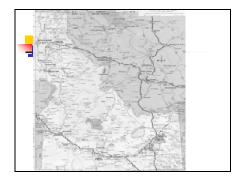


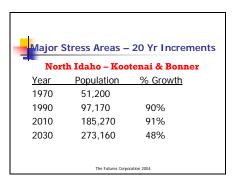
Transportation Stress Areas Based on Growth in Idaho's Key Geographic Areas

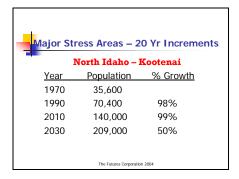
Unfortunately, Idaho's topographic limitations cause Idaho's population to be compressed into key geographic areas. Our river bottoms, mountain ranges, limit where most people will live.



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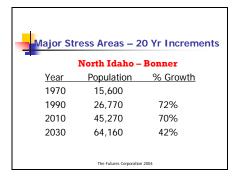






The Spokane/Coeur d' Alene area will see phenomenal growth. Population will double by 2010, with another 50% by 2030.

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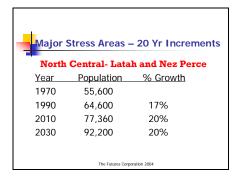


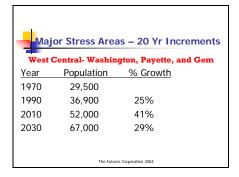
The Sandpoint area is also growing and crowding into limited corridor areas.

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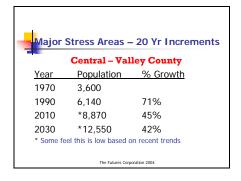
Some counties are predicted to experience negative growth for one reason or another.



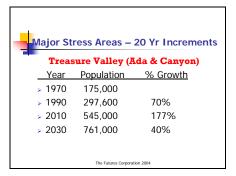


West Central counties may experience even more growth if current population shifts continue.

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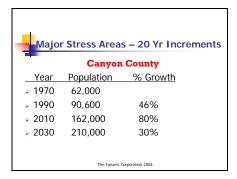


Population growth prediction may be low if resort and accompanying residential investment is made.

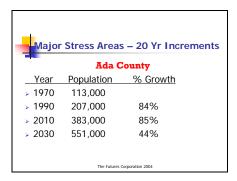


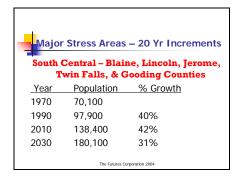
Treasure Valley is another area where predictions could be low. Many factors can affect the final number, but major growth should be expected in the near future.

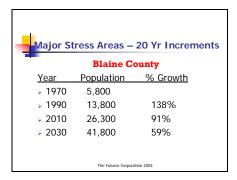
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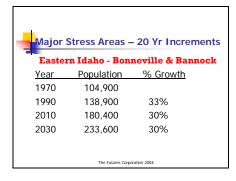
Canyon county predictions could be much higher if development continues. A new Wal-Mart can change population growth.

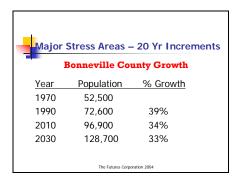




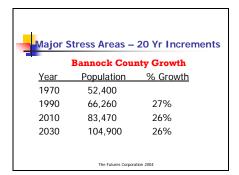


Blaine county by itself is a very interesting growth area. The population will remain compressed into narrow land areas that will have inflated costs.





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So you see that Idaho has stress areas throughout the state.

Additionally, our industry/economy (high-tech, service, tourism, timber and agriculture) will support an influx of inmigration. And as our airports grow, economic growth will become that much stronger.

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Idaho also is a "bridge state," so some of our transportation problems are driven by the need to cross through.

Every time we improve up north, we make Canadian growth easier -- good roads assist Canadian exports to move to market.



The Road Ahead...

Launch inquiry, conduct analysis, define challenges, 'frame' your agenda, establish clear direction and a course of action, explore new options, define a time line, and recommend a sensible set of strategies that allow adequate funding for key projects

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Some Practical Questions...

With several billion dollars needing to be invested in Idaho's transportation infrastructure over the next fifteen to twenty years, how should the state plan for such long-term – and very predictable- funding requirements? Will the same old approaches suffice or are their other proven approaches that can ensure continuous improvement? What mechanisms can be created and what actions must be taken?

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Another problem that will impact Western population growth is water. The west has had high precipitation in the last few decades, but the pendulum is swinging to a much drier time. Water is finite and it will get scarce. Lake Mead and other Arizona watersheds are already well below normal.

Major climatic shifts can occur in ten years. A book – *Two Mile Time Machine* – deals with the melting ice cap and the climatic changes that may happen.

U. S. exports in meat products are doing better, while exports of grain are not competing as well with foreign growers. So U. S. is switching to feeding grain here and then exporting meat. This is a very smart way to compete.

Transportation systems are going to have to be allied with producers to define the smartest way to match their needs.

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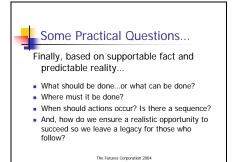


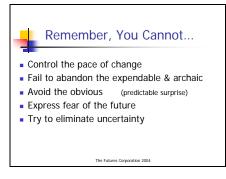
Some Practical Questions...

What criteria might be used for establishing project and funding priorities? Similarly, how will the State effectively make plans now that will relate to predictable surface transportation needs for the next 25 years? Think multimodal, light rail, highway, roadway, and public transit...

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Logistics in transportation is key to import/export competitiveness; and transportation planning will have to address this issue.





Thanks for inviting me to speak to these important issues.

Questions & Considerations

Presented by The Futures Corporation on 9/27/04 @ Boise, Idaho

John Luthy, President

As noted in the presentation, this esteemed group is in many ways a 'think tank' convened to consider not only transportation planning for the next 25 years, but also how the various programs and services you envision might be funded. In this venue, you are encouraged to become extraordinary strategic thinkers, leaving existing roles and representation at the door. Today and in the months ahead, you are a thinking citizen of our great state and are challenged to leave the best possible legacy for those who follow.

Over the coming months, consider the following questions. You will raise many more as you drill down into this very interesting, very challenging subject, but these will help get you started.

What will the nature of traffic be in 2020? 2030? Where will it be most significant? V	Wil
traffic growth and congestion be key motivators for both funding and planning?	

Trend analysis indicates that long-haul truck size will continue to increase. What will this do to road planning – new and maintenance programs? Will trucking be more of a critical planning factor than passenger cars? Should it be?
Passenger vehicle size is predicted to decrease over the next twenty years as gasoline, maintenance costs, and prices soar. How will smaller cars impact transportation planning and road maintenance?
How will combined effects of larger transport trucks and smaller cars be factored into the planning and funding equation?
Alternate fuels will become very prominent within ten years. Yet, there is currently no mechanism to track usage or tax alternative fuels such as hydrogen or electricity. As gasoline is used less (due to elective migration to other fuels or shortages) and new alternatives are found, how will road maintenance be funded, given that vehicle will continue to use the roadways?
Historically, ITD has done a great job of linking metropolitan areas within a very rural state. Will this thinking and application of funds evolve as the population grows and more urbanization occurs? What type of collaboration will be necessary? Will funding mechanism evolve?
Urban metro areas are quickly becoming magnets for commuting workers, bringing greater stress on roadways linking more rural areas/communities to more urban communities. Commuter demand is predicted to intensify and grow significantly in specific areas. Due to economic realities related to business growth options in Idaho communities, should roadway funding be tied to predicted or desired economic development? How can it be?
Land use planning will grow much more interrelated with transportation planning over the next several years – it is already a significant element. How will economic development planning, land use planning, and transportation planning be integrated? Are there existing mechanisms or must they be created? Who leads this effort?
With several billion dollars needing to be invested in Idaho's transportation infrastructure over the next ten to fifteen years, how should the state plan for such long-term – and very predictable – funding requirements? Will the same old approaches suffice or are there other proven approaches that can ensure continuous improvement? What mechanisms can we put in place and what actions must be taken?
What criteria might be used for establishing project and funding priorities? Similarly, how will the State effectively make plans now that will relate to predictable surface transportation needs for the next 25 years? Think multi-modal, light rail, highway and roadway, and public transit
And finally, based on supportable fact and predictable reality
 ⇒ What should be done; ⇒ Where must it be done; ⇒ When should actions be complete; ⇒ And, how do we ensure a realistic opportunity to succeed?